

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A method of managing loading in a beam pattern associated with a multi-beam antenna array, comprising:

receiving first information which indicates that a first beam of the beam pattern is overloaded;

receiving second information which indicates that a user is located in an area covered by a second beam which is adjacent to the first beam in the beam pattern;
and

in response to said first and second information, selecting a third beam of the beam pattern for effectuating communication with the user.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the third beam has more available communication capacity than the first beam.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the user causes more interference to another user than said another user causes to the first-mentioned user.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein the first-mentioned user is a user of one of a video service, a web browsing service, a file transfer service and a speech service.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the second beam spatially overlaps the first beam.

6. (Original) An apparatus for managing loading in a beam pattern associated with a multi-beam antenna array, comprising:

an input for receiving first information which indicates that a first beam of the beam pattern is overloaded, and for receiving second information which indicates that a user is located in an area covered by a second beam which is adjacent to the first beam in the beam pattern; and

a selector coupled to said input and responsive to said first and second information for selecting a third beam of the beam pattern for effectuating communication with the user.

7. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the third beam has more available communication capacity than the first beam.

8. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the user causes more interference to another user than said another user causes to the first-mentioned user.

9. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 8, wherein the user is a user of one of a video service, a web browsing service, a file transfer service and a speech service.

10. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 6, provided in one of a CDMA base station and a WCDMA base station.

11. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the multi-beam antenna array is a fixed beam (FB) array.

12. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 6, wherein the second beam spatially overlaps the first beam.

13- 24. (Canceled)